

Appl. No. 10/070,939

Amtd. AF dated October 6, 2005

Reply to Final Office Action of August 9, 2005

REMARKS

Applicant has carefully reviewed the Final Office Action mailed August 9, 2005, prior to preparing this response. Currently, claims 1, 2, 5 and 8-22 are pending in the application, wherein claims 1, 2, 5, 8-17 and 22 are allowed, claim 18 is rejected, and claims 19-21 are objected to as depending from a rejected base claim. Applicant respectfully thanks the Examiner for the favorable consideration of the claims.

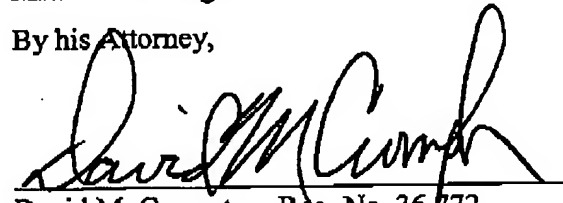
As suggested by the Examiner, claim 19 has been redrafted into independent form including all the limitations of claim 18. Claims 20 and 21 remain dependent on claim 19. Claim 18 has been cancelled in order to advance prosecution of the application to allowance. In canceling claim 18, the anticipatory rejection of claim 18 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) based on the teachings of Rosenthal, U.S. Patent No. 6,285,903, is considered moot. In canceling claim 18, Applicant does not concede the correctness of the rejection and reserves the privilege of presenting the claim in a related application.

Reexamination and reconsideration are respectfully requested. It is respectfully submitted that all pending claims are now in condition for allowance. Issuance of a Notice of Allowance in due course is requested. If a telephone conference might be of assistance, please contact the undersigned attorney at (612) 677-9050.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Schwager

By his Attorney,

Date: 10/6/05

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